International Seabed Authority ISBA/21/C/4

# Council

Distr.: General
7 May 2015

Original: English

**Twenty-first session**
Kingston, Jamaica
13-24 July 2015

## Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission in accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982

### Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Council of the International Seabed Authority is invited to note that Emmanuel Kalngui (Cameroon), member of the Legal and Technical Commission, resigned on 2 April 2015. Mr. Kalngui had been re-elected as a member of the Commission on 21 July 2011 (see ISBA/17/C/21, para. 18), for a term of five years beginning 1 January 2012.

2. In accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and rule 80, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Council, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Commission prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Council shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or area of interest.

3. Article 163, paragraph 3, of the Convention and rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the Council provide that members of the Commission shall have appropriate qualifications in the area of competence of the Commission and that States parties shall nominate candidates of the highest standards of competence and integrity with qualifications in relevant fields so as to ensure the effective exercise of the functions of the Commission.

4. By a note verbale dated 13 April 2015, the Permanent Missions of Cameroon to the United Nations and to the International Seabed Authority informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of the Director of Geology in the Ministry of Mines, Industry and Technological Development of the Government of Cameroon, Théophile Ndougsa Mbarga, as a candidate to fill the vacant seat on the Commission. The curriculum vitae of Mr. Ndougsa Mbarga is contained in the annex to the present note.

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# Annex

## Curriculum vitae of Théophile Ndougsa Mbarga (Cameroon)*

[Original: French]

Mr. Théophile Ndougsa Mbarga holds a doctoral degree in exploration geophysics and is a high-ranking professor at the level of senior lecturer (*maître de conférences*) in the public university system (University of Yaoundé I). He also holds several professional diplomas in mining engineering, oil and gas exploitation management and mining and petroleum contract negotiations.

On the basis of this profile and his many publications (more than 20 in international journals) as an academic in the field of geosciences applied to mining and petroleum research, Mr. Ndougsa Mbarga has been appointed to government posts with responsibility for geology, mining and hydrocarbons. He has served as Assistant Director of Geology (from 8 September 2005 to 12 February 2013), Director a.i. of Mining and Geology (from 14 July to 16 September 2011) and Director of Geology (from 27 February 2013 to the present). He also currently serves as the representative of Cameroon in the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, which meets annually in Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Over the past 10 years, Mr. Ndougsa Mbarga has participated actively in:

(1) Negotiations on mining agreements for diamond, iron and bauxite projects in Cameroon. In some cases, such as the negotiations on the bauxite mining agreement, he served for one year as head of the negotiating committee;

(2) Audits concerning the evaluation of mineral resources and reserves in several mining projects under way in Cameroon, carried out in accordance with the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards template, which draws on the guidelines of the Canadian, South African, Australian, American, Chilean and European codes on modalities for the estimation and reporting of mineral resources and reserves;

(3) Supervision of transactions between small mining companies operating at the national level and the giants of the international mining industry;

(4) Advance technical missions to evaluate the oil and gas exploration and production activities of certain oil companies (Sterling Oil & Gas Limited, Murphy Cameroon Ntem Oil) prior to their entry into the Cameroonian oil sector.

It should also be noted that, with respect to the prevention of natural risks, he served as technical coordinator of the implementation of activities under the agreement between the French Government's Priority Solidarity Fund, the European Union and Cameroon on risk monitoring around Mount Cameroon from October 2005 to May 2007, for the purpose of managing natural risks and protecting the local population.

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

All of his ongoing coordination, follow-up and evaluation activities have kept him abreast of the technical environment of international legal issues in general and issues pertaining to the international law governing mining and petroleum operations in particular.

Thus, his technical qualifications and proven experience in monitoring and evaluating mining and hydrocarbon exploration, exploitation and development activities form the foundation for his nomination by Cameroon as a member of the Legal and Technical Commission of the International Seabed Authority.